

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on African Studies

After study of the Brief on African Studies submitted to the Executive Committee of Senate on December 8, 1967 and after discussions with the chairmen of the departments concerned, we recommend to Senate,

(1) The establishment of a Centre of African Studies at Loyola. The purpose of this Centre would be to focus African Studies at Loyola and to reorganize its administration.

Administrative Structure of the Centre

The Committee has considered various forms which African Studies might take at Loyola, i.e. a summer institute, an independent department and finally the possibility of a centre functioning as a subdivision of the History Department or of the Political Science Department. In one way or another each of these possibilities would either fail to provide for the development of African Studies as an "integral part of the undergraduate curriculum" (cf. African Studies Brief, p.1) or, if the Centre were an autonomous department, it would not be consistent with the curricula of an undergraduate institution. Therefore, we recommend that,

- (2) The Centre of African Studies will administer the African program at Loyola and its Director will report to the Dean of Arts and to the Academic Vice President.
- (3) The Centre of African Studies not offer a major or honours program.
- (4) Courses in the African area which do not fit into regular departmental structures may be offered by the Centre subject to the approval of the departments concerned.
- (5) The Centre of African Studies will have the same rights and duties as an academic department in the hiring of faculty but will exercise its rights and duties in conjunction with interested departments. Faculty teaching African courses in any department will be considered to be additional to the normal expansion plans of the interested department.
- (6) Faculty teaching courses in the African programme will be cross-appointed to a department. Such cross-appointments will be made only with the approval of both the Chairman of the departments concerned and of the Director of the Centre of African Studies.
- (7) The Centre of African Studies will be charged the full salary of the faculty members cross-appointed unless the departments concerned wish to hire such faculty to lecture in non-African courses.
- (8) The Senate ~~encourage~~ the Centre of African Studies to negotiate with the University of Montreal, with the Centre for Developing Areas at McGill and with Sir George Williams University for the creation of a Montreal Institute for African Studies.

The Committee believes that provisions (2) through (6) above will provide the necessary terms of reference for establishing the new courses and faculty as proposed in the African Studies Brief, pp. 5-6.

Budget. The Committee is of the conviction that recommendations concerning the budget of African Studies can be made only in the light of the allocation of monies to other departments and programs. Therefore, we can only urge that Senate first obtain such general overview of the academic budget of the College as would make possible an evaluation of the budget for African Studies along with that of other departments and programs.

Research. The Committee recognizes the importance of research for any academic enterprise in an institution of higher learning. (Cf. African Studies Brief, p.5) However, in the absence of any College policy on research, the Committee can only urge Senate to reconstitute a Research Committee to formulate such a College policy and that African Studies then submit its proposals to this Committee.

Scholarships. The Committee believes that proposals for scholarships for African students (African Studies Brief, p.6) should be submitted to the appropriate Senate Committee on Scholarships.

Library. The Committee believes that proposals concerning the African collection (African Studies Brief, p.6) should be submitted to the Library Committee.

Senate Review. In view of both the growing importance of interdisciplinary and area studies and of the complexities inherent in their administration, the Committee recommends that,*

- (9) The Above eight provisions for the Centre of African Studies be in effect for a trial period of three years and thence should be reviewed by Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Hinners (Chairman)

(Rev.) G. MacGuigan, S.J.

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January 18, 1968

* SEE APPENDIX A ATTACHED

APPENDIX A

Some of the "inherent complexities" pointed out to us are;

- 1) Who would recommend the promotion or termination of contract of cross-appointees after their cross-appointment?
- 2) Could the African Centre be "sabotaged" if departments were not interested or if they consistently refused to approve cross-appointments?
- 3) If a department disapproves of a cross-appointment or of an African course offering, could the Centre be left with a "dangling man" (or a dangling course)? And under such circumstances will not the Centre be forced to develop into a full-fledged department contrary to the provisions (3) - (7) above?
- 4) Would a cross-appointee owe "his loyalty" primarily to his department or to the Centre?
- 5) Provisions (5) and (6) above place undue pressure on departments to expand in a certain direction which may be contrary to its own free and natural development.

Finally, the Political Science Department has pointed out that we must give serious consideration to situating African Studies in a broader context of the Third World.